

Applicant: Kozikowski et al.  
Serial No.: 10/658,241  
5677-177

### **REMARKS**

Minor errors are being corrected in Claims 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 12, 13, 22, 24, 25, and 26. The dependency of Claim 6 has been changed.

Support for identifying the mixture of protected oligomers of Claim 1 as the protected (4 $\beta$ ,8)-dimer and -trimer may be found in Example 2 where the tetra-*O*-protected epicatechin monomer 5, 7, 3', 4'-tetra-*O*-benzylepicatechin was condensed with the tetra-*O*-protected, C-4 activated monomer 5, 7, 3', 4'-tetra-*O*-benzyl-4-(2-hydroxyethoxy) epicatechin in the presence of an acidic clay.

Support for identifying the mixture of protected oligomers of Claim 2 as the protected (4 $\beta$ ,8)-trimer and tetramer may be found in Example 3 where the tetra-*O*-protected (4 $\beta$ ,8)-dimer bis (5, 7, 3', 4'-tetra-*O*-benzyl) epicatechin (4 $\beta$ ,8)-dimer is condensed with the tetra-*O*-protected, C-4 activated monomer 5, 7, 3', 4'-tetra-*O*-benzyl-4-(2-hydroxyethoxy) epicatechin in the presence of an acidic clay.

Claim 10 has been amended to identify the positions protected by the benzyl protecting groups.

Claim 11 has been amended to name the benzyl-protected oligomers.

Claim 16 has been amended to identify the position of the acetyl protecting group.

Claim 17 has been amended to identify the protected oligomers as (4 $\beta$ ,8)-epicatechin oligomers.

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Claim 19 has been amended to identify the protected oligomers produced when the protected oligomer used in the coupling is the dimer, the trimer, or the tetramer. See Examples 7 (dimer), 8 (trimer) and 9 (tetramer) for the compositions of the mixtures.

Claim 27 has been amended to name the activated monomer formed in step a) and self-condensed in step b).

Claims 32 and 34 have been amended to name the specific compounds being prepared.

Entry of the amendment is respectfully requested. No new matter is presented.

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Respectfully submitted,

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